

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (original): A system for maneuvering an implant to a target site and deploying the implant at the target site, the system comprising:

an outer housing having a working channel and first and second ends,
the first end having a piercing jaw, the piercing jaw moveably coupled to
the first end,
the second end providing access to the working channel of the outer
housing; and

an inner housing having a working passage and distal and proximal ends,
wherein the inner housing is sized to be slidable within the working
channel of the outer housing, has a piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the distal end of the
inner housing, and has a plunger face positioned within the inner housing's working passage.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the plunger face is slidable within the working passage of the inner housing.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The system of claim 1 wherein the piercing jaw of the outer housing has a serrated surface.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): The system of claim 3 wherein the piercing jaw of the outer housing is biased by a biasing element to be in a closed position.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the outer housing contains a second internal channel.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the outer housing has an expandable bladder in physical communication with its external surface, the bladder expandable from a first position to a second larger position.

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 6 wherein an accessible surface of the bladder is covered with a therapeutic.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The system of claim 1 wherein the piercing jaw of the inner housing has a serrated surface.

Claim 9 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the piercing jaw of the inner housing is separable into at least two sections.

Claim 10 (original): The system of claim 9 wherein the two sections are biased towards each other with a biasing element.

Claim 11 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the working passage of the inner housing is in fluid communication with a vacuum source.

Claim 12 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the outer housing has a first locking collar in physical communication with its outside surface and the inner housing has a second locking collar in physical communication with its outside surface, and wherein the first locking collar and the second locking collar are releasably connected to one another.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system of claim 1 wherein the plunger assembly face is releasably coupled to either ~~the~~ a first locking collar or ~~the~~ a second locking collar.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end; and

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, is in physical communication with a biasing element, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing.

not allowable

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 14 further comprising~~ A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end;

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing; and

an expandable bladder, the expandable bladder in physical communication with an outside surface of the housing, the expandable bladder expandable from a first position to a second position.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The device of claim ~~14~~ 15 wherein the expandable bladder is coated with a therapeutic.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 15 wherein the housing contains a therapeutic channel, the therapeutic channel in fluid communication with the outside surface of the expandable bladder~~ A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, a therapeutic channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end;

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing; and

an expandable bladder having an inside and outside surface, the expandable bladder in physical communication with an outside surface of the housing, the outside surface of the expandable bladder in fluid communication with the therapeutic channel, the expandable bladder expandable from a first position to a second position.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The device of claim 14 further comprising:

a second piercing jaw,
the second piercing jaw moveably coupled to the first end of the housing,
the second piercing jaw ending in a piercing tip,
the second piercing jaw moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing,
the second piercing jaw having a serrated surface.

Q Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 14 further comprising:~~ A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end;

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing; and

a plunger assembly containing a plunger head and a plunger shaft, the plunger assembly located within the working channel of the housing.

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 19 wherein~~ A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end;

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing; and

a plunger assembly containing a plunger head and a plunger shaft, the plunger shaft terminating in a knob, and wherein the plunger shaft defines one or more holes, the plunger assembly located within the working channel of the housing.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The device of claim 14 further comprising:

an extension sleeve, the extension sleeve surrounding the housing, the extension sleeve coupled to the first piercing jaw, the extension sleeve slidable from a first position to a second position.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The device of claim 21 further comprising:

an extension line in physical communication with the first piercing jaw,
wherein the extension line is also moveable from a first position to a second position,
with the first position correlating to a closed position for the first extension jaw, and
the second position correlating to an open position for the first extension jaw.

Claim 23 (currently amended): ~~The device of claim 14 further comprising:~~ A device for maneuvering an implant to a target site in the body and deploying the implant at the target site, the device comprising:

a biocompatible housing having a working channel, an outside surface, a first end, and a second end;

a first piercing jaw that is moveably coupled to the first end of the housing, ends in a piercing tip, and is moveable from a first closed position to a second open position, the second open position allowing access to the working channel of the housing; and

a locking collar in physical communication with the outside surface of the housing.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method for maneuvering an implant to a target site and deploying the implant at the target site, the method comprising:

guiding a first housing having a piercing jaw ending in a piercing tip and a working channel ~~through the body and~~ to a target site in the body, the piercing tip forging the path towards the target in which the housing will travel;

urging a second housing from an end of the working channel of the first housing;
retracting the second housing into the working channel of the first housing; and
deploying an implant at the target site.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 23 25 further comprising:

inflating an expandable bladder located around at least ~~one~~ of the first or second
 housings.

Claim 27 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 25 wherein guiding the first housing to a target site in the body includes~~ A method for maneuvering an implant to a target site and deploying the implant at the target site, the method comprising:

guiding a first housing having a piercing jaw ending in a piercing tip and a working channel through the body and to a target site in the body, by manipulating a guide wire placed within the first housing;

urging a second housing from an end of the working channel of the first housing;
retracting the second housing into the working channel of the first housing; and
deploying an implant at the target site.

Claim 28 (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 25 further comprising:~~ A method for maneuvering an implant to a target site and deploying the implant at the target site, the method comprising:

guiding a first housing having a piercing jaw ending in a piercing tip and a working channel through the body and to a target site in the body;

urging a second housing from an end of the working channel of the first housing;
retracting the second housing into the working channel of the first housing;
deploying an implant at the target site; and

releasably coupling a locking collar from the first housing to a locking collar from the second housing.

Claim 29 (original): A system for maneuvering an implant to a target site and deploying the implant at the target site, the system comprising:

an outer housing having a working channel, and a first end and a second end,
the first end having a first means for piercing into the body the first means
for piercing moveably coupled to the first end, the second end providing access to the working
channel of the outer housing; and

an inner housing having a working passage and a distal end and a proximal end,
wherein the inner housing is also sized to be slidable within the working
channel of the outer housing and has a second means for piercing into the body that is moveably
coupled to the distal end of the inner housing, the inner housing also having a plunger assembly
positioned within its working passage.
